



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
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JUNCUS HALLII **HALL'S RUSH**

Hall's Rush is a perennial with erect clusters of stems that are 20-30 cm tall, and with fibrous roots. The leaves are round, confined to near the base of the plant, and are up to 15 cm long with a groove on the side facing the stem. The uppermost leaf has a sheath surrounding the stem but lacks a blade. The 2-6 flowers are borne in a loosely congested inflorescence subtended by an erect bract that is erect and round, giving the inflorescence the appearance of being lateral rather than terminal. The flowers have 6 sharply pointed tepals that are light brown with membranous margins and 4-5 mm long. The seed capsules are dark brown with a lobed top. Each seed is ca. 1 mm long with a distinct tail at each end. Flowering from July-August.

The apparently lateral inflorescence, lack of an upper leaf blade, lobed seed capsule, and tailed seeds in combination distinguish this from other species of *JUNCUS* in our area. A hand lens or microscope and technical key are needed for positive identification.